

Claims

1. A method of providing access via a first network (30) to a service facilitated by a second network (90), said method comprising the steps of:
 - 5 a) using an authentication message to signal a service selection information via said first network to an authentication server means (50) of said second network (30); and
 - b) using said service selection information to connect to services provided over an access point indicated by said service selection information.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said first network is a wireless local area network (30).
3. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said second network is a cellular packet-switched network (70).
- 15 4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said cellular packet-switched network is a GPRS network (70).
5. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said authentication message is an EAP message.
6. A method according to claim 5, wherein said EAP message is an EAP SIM or EAP AKA message.
- 20 7. A method according to claim 5 or 6, wherein said authentication message is an EAP Challenge Response message.
8. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said service selection information comprises at least one APN parameter.
- 25 9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said at least one APN parameter comprises an APN, a username and a password.
10. A method according to claim 7 or 8, wherein said APN parameter is encrypted in said authentication message.

11. A method according to claim 9 or 10, wherein at least one of said APN parameters is encrypted so that it can only be decrypted at the network defined by the APN)
12. An authentication server device for providing an authentication mechanism, said authentication server (50) being arranged:
 - a) to extract from a received authentication message a service selection information for selecting a service; and
 - b) to use said service selection information for establishing a connection to services provided over an access point indicated by said service selection information.
13. An authentication server according to claim 12, wherein said authentication mechanism is based on an EAP protocol.
14. An authentication server according to claim 13, wherein said received authentication message is an EAP Challenge Response message.
15. An authentication server according to any one of claims 12 to 14, wherein said authentication server is a standalone WLAN authentication server (50).
16. An authentication server according to any one of claims 12 to 14, wherein said authentication server is a GGSN.
17. An authentication server device according to any one of claims 12 to 16, wherein said service selection information comprises at least one APN parameter.
18. An authentication server according to claim 17 , wherein said APN parameter is encrypted in said authentication message.
19. An authentication server according to claim 17 or 18, wherein at least one of said APN parameters is decrypted in said authentication server.
20. An authentication server according to claims 17 to 19 , wherein at least one of said APN parameter is forwarded by the authentication server to said access point in an encrypted manner.

21. A terminal device for providing access to a network service, said device being arranged to set in an authentication message a service selection information for selecting said network service.
22. A device according to claim 21, wherein said authentication message is an EAP message.
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23. A device according to claim 22, wherein said EAP message is an EAP Challenge Response message.
24. A device according to claim 23, wherein said EAP Challenge Response message is an EAP SIM or EAP AKA Challenge Response message.
- 10 25. A device according to any one of claims 21 to 24, wherein said service selection information comprises at least one APN parameter.
26. A device according to any one of claims 21 to 25, wherein said service is a GPRS service.
- 15 27. A system for providing access from a first network (30) to a service of a second network (90), said system comprising a terminal device according to any one of claims 21 to 26, said terminal device (10) being connected to said first network (30), and an authentication server device (40) according to any one of claims 14 to 20, said authentication server being connected to said second network.